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MEMORANDUM FOR COLONEL HARRY F. CUNNINGHAM,  
CHIEF, INFORMATION BRANCH, CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP.

During the war, the State Department acted somewhat as a service organization for the SI Branch of OSS. Cover titles were granted and communication and transportation facilities were given. Since the effort of SI was primarily of a military nature rather than political, I feel that I am in no position to evaluate the long-range peacetime potentialities of such a unit.

In my opinion the X-2 type of work should not be cast aside hastily and forgotten. The war time unit can well boast of some valuable talent and certain communication facilities that should be capitalized upon during peace time by an organization of a permanent character. In this interim period when the Foreign Service finds itself understaffed in visa officers and immigration specialists, X-2 serves us well in screening applicants for visas and those persons abroad who claim right to American passports.

It is my studied opinion that any long-range peacetime organization should have some similar unit or section capable of ferreting out security intelligence data which, in particular, is of real value to the State Department. In the event that FBI activities are extended to world-wide coverage, the continuance of X-2 functions would fall properly under FBI.

Frederick B. Lyon  
Director, Office of Controls

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